## VERIFICATION RESULTS OF FREE & REDUCED PRICE MEAL APPLICATIONS

## Montana Local Education Agencies (LEAs) School Year 2009-10

The results of verification for school year 2009-10 in Montana are positive and indicate a good level of integrity in the administration of the School Nutrition Programs in Montana. Only 11 (4.98%) LEAs had less than 80% response rate from households selected for verification (meaning that more than 20% of the applicants selected for verification at their school did NOT respond). This is a slight decrease from the previous year where 20 (8.97%) LEAs had less than 80% response rate, and only 6 were repeats from the previous year.

Of the 95.02% of households that responded, error (indicated by a change in meal benefits, either positive or negative) was found in 13.20% of applications. That means 86.80% of all applications verified in Montana during 2009-10 were correct at the time that they were turned in and 6.60% did not respond, therefore their error rate is undetermined.

School districts will qualify for reduced verification requirements (i.e., same as current requirements) during the 2010-11 school year if they achieve a response rate of 80 percent or higher from households during the 2010-11 school year. School districts are strongly encouraged to conduct aggressive follow-up to get 100 percent response rate during the fall 2010 verification process.

## **Results of Verification, By Category**

| / <b>V</b>                         |   |            |   |            |                           |            |                             |            |
|------------------------------------|---|------------|---|------------|---------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|
|                                    | Free Eligible based on FS/TANF/FDPIR Case |            | Free Eligible based on Income/Household |            | Reduced-Price<br>Eligible |            | Response Category<br>Totals |            |
|                                    |   |            |   |            |                           |            |                             |            |
|                                    | Number                                    |            | Size                                    |            |                           |            |                             |            |
|                                    | Number of                                 | Percent of | Number of                               | Percent of | Number of                 | Percent of | Total                       | Percent of |
|                                    | applications                              | total      | applications                            | total      | applications              | total      | applications                | total      |
| Responded and No Change            | 61  | 8.39 %     | 342                                     | 47.04%     | 180                       | 24.76%     | 583                         | 80.19%     |
| Responded, changed to Free         | N/A                                       | N/A        | N/A                                     | N/A        | 32                        | 4.40%      | 32                          | 4.40%      |
| Responded, changed to              | 0   | 0 %        | 24                                      | 3.30%      | N/A                       | N/A        | 24                          | 3.30%      |
| Reduced                            |   |            |   |            |                           |            |                             |            |
| Responded, changed to Paid         | 2   | 0.28 %     | 10                                      | 1.38%      | 28                        | 3.85%      | 40                          | 5.50%      |
| Did NOT respond                    | 9   | 1.24%      | 21                                      | 2.89%      | 18                        | 2.48%      | 48                          | 6.60%      |
| <b>Total Applications Verified</b> | 72  | 9.90%      | 397                                     | 54.61%     | 258                       | 35.49%     | 727                         | 100 .00%   |